

LACH Stewardship Sub-Committee Report

Wednesday September 28, 2016

Location: Planning Office, 206 Dundas Street

Start Time: 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.

Present: J. Cushing (Chair), J. Hunten, T. Regnier, T. McLaughlin; K. Gonyou (staff)

Regrets: B. Vazquez, M. Tovey, A. Beaton, M. Sawicka

Agenda Items:

1. Referred to LACH (April 13, 2016): 5200 Wellington Road South (Regina Mundi Catholic College)

The Stewardship Sub-Committee members received and reviewed information from T. McLaughlin outlining the potential cultural heritage value or interest of Regina Mundi Catholic College (5200 Wellington Road South). It was discussed that the information provided sufficient rationale, particularly for the Chapel, to merit inclusion on the Register (*Inventory of Heritage Resources*).

Regina Mundi Catholic College (5200 Wellington Road South)

The property at 5200 Wellington Road South, known as Regina Mundi Catholic College is recommended by LACH Stewardship Committee for addition to the Register (*Inventory of Heritage Resources*).

Designed by: Watt and Tillman Architects 1962-1963

Regina Mundi Catholic College, which opened in 1963, operated as a Junior Seminary established by Bishop John Cody for the training of young men preparing for priesthood. Located on over 100 acres of land, the building cost \$2 million to construct and contained ten classrooms, a science room, library, gymnasium and chapel. There were also four student activity rooms. Dormitories and semi-private rooms for boarding were located on the upper two floors. A small convent on the site housed the nuns who assisted in the housekeeping duties within the building. The (former) bell tower, located at the peak of the front entrance, was deconstructed in 2011 due to safety concerns.

The school later became a boys boarding school and then in 1983, a co-ed secondary school within the former London and Middlesex Catholic School Board, now the London District Catholic School Board. Renovations and additions took place in 1988, and include a larger double gym, classrooms, and a technology wing (within the central section of the original building). The plan of the building remains simple, and linear in design.

Regina Mundi Catholic College is now situated on a smaller parcel of land that includes a track, bus and vehicular parking, a pond and a forest to the east. The Catholic Education Centre (part of the London District Catholic School Board) is located to the north.

The Chapel, located at Regina Mundi Catholic College is situated on the first floor of the central wing of Regina Mundi Catholic College. Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Chapel is visible upon entrance into the original part of the building. Having a seating capacity for 250 people with a small balcony at the rear, the proportions and design of the space are balanced, and it is the largest chapel of the Catholic Secondary Schools in the London District. The structure of the space is marked by a tapered-column frame, evident within the finished walls and ceiling of the space. The exterior of the Chapel is clad by stone (like the rest of the original school) with interior wood finishes and marble accents. Key features include the painted glass windows (featuring the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church) with marble stools located below the window frames. Two rooms flank the rear of the chapel, and originally housed the priests living quarters. These rooms are now used by the Chaplaincy Team. The Chapel also features a memory wall displaying photos of former students and staff members who passed away during their time at Regina Mundi Catholic College.

The chapel is considered to be of Mid-Century Modern design, and is believed to be of significant historical and spiritual value for its location, design, proportions and use of materials.

Motion: Recommendation that Regina Mundi Catholic College (5200 Wellington Road South) be added to the Register (*Inventory of Heritage Resources*) as a Priority 1 Resource. Moved: J. Cushing; seconded: J. Hunten. Passed.

2. Heritage Review:

- a. 1160 Kipps Lane (original Kipp's family home) (J. Hunten, S. Gibson) *further research required*
- b. 2056 Huron Street ("House in the Grove") (Municipal Council, January 19, 2009) (T. Regnier) *information provided by T. Regnier*
- c. 1152 Dundas Street (Ruggles Truck Factory) Municipal Council, January 19, 2009) (information provided to staff)
- d. 609 Dundas Street (Lilley's Corners) (B. Vazquez) *further research required*
- e. 255 Delacourt Road (Woodholme) (LACH February 10, 2015) (J. Hunten) *further evaluation required*
- f. 807 Colborne Street (Fire Station No. 4) (staff)
- g. 43 Bruce Street (M. Whalley, A. Beaton) *T. Regnier shared obituary for William Westcott*
- h. 163 Oxford Street East (A. Beaton, M. Tovey) *further research required*
- i. 329 Victoria Street (A. Beaton, M. Tovey) *further research required*

- j. 111 Clarence Street (A. Beaton, M. Tovey) *further research required; potential connections to former London Soap Factory (South Street)*